



## AGENDA ITEM 4 REPORT

Southern California Association of Governments  
JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort & Spa  
74-855 Country Club Drive, Palm Desert, CA 92260  
Sinatra Ballroom  
May 5, 2022

### SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS GENERAL ASSEMBLY – ANNUAL BUSINESS SESSION MINUTES OF THE MEETING THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2021

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. A VIDEO RECORDING OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE ON THE SCAG WEBSITE AT: <http://scag.ig2.com/Citizens/>

The General Assembly of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) held its Business Session telephonically and electronically, given public health directives limiting public gatherings due to the threat of COVID-19 and in compliance with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20. A quorum was present.

Delegate and/or Alternate Representatives from the following Cities, Counties and County Transportation Commissions were in attendance:

**Imperial County:** Brawley, Calexico, Calipatria, El Centro, Imperial, Westmorland and the County of Imperial

**Los Angeles County:** Agoura Hills, Alhambra, Arcadia, Artesia, Avalon, Azusa, Bell, Bell Gardens, Bellflower, Beverly Hills, Burbank, Calabasas, Carson, Cerritos, Claremont, Covina, Culver City, Diamond Bar, Downey, Duarte, El Monte, El Segundo, Gardena, Glendale, Hawthorne, La Cañada Flintridge, La Habra Heights, La Mirada, La Verne, Lakewood, Lancaster, Lawndale, Lomita, Long Beach, Lynwood, Monrovia, Montebello, Norwalk, Pomona, Redondo Beach, Rolling Hills Estates, Rosemead, San Dimas, San Gabriel, Santa Clarita, Santa Fe Springs, Sierra Madre, Signal Hill, South El Monte, South Pasadena, Torrance, Vernon, West Hollywood, Westlake Village, Whittier and the County of Los Angeles

**Orange County:** Aliso Viejo, Anaheim, Brea, Buena Park, Costa Mesa, Cypress, Dana Point, Fullerton, Garden Grove, Huntington Beach, Irvine, La Habra, Laguna Niguel, Laguna Woods, Lake Forest, Los Alamitos, Mission Viejo, Newport Beach, Placentia, San Clemente, San Juan Capistrano, Santa Ana, Seal Beach, Stanton, Tustin, Villa Park, Yorba Linda and the County of Orange

**Riverside County:** Banning, Beaumont, Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Cathedral City, Coachella, Corona, Desert Hot Springs, Eastvale, Hemet, Indian Wells, Indio, Jurupa Valley, La Quinta, Lake Elsinore,



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Menifee, Moreno Valley, Murrieta, Palm Desert, Palm Springs, Perris, Riverside, San Jacinto, Temecula, Wildomar and the County of Riverside

**San Bernardino County:** Adelanto, Barstow, Big Bear Lake, Chino Hills, Colton, Fontana, Grand Terrace, Highland, Loma Linda, Montclair, Needles, Ontario, Rancho Cucamonga, Rialto, San Bernardino, Twentynine Palms, Upland, Victorville, Yucaipa and the County of San Bernardino

**Ventura County:** Moorpark, Ojai, Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Santa Paula, Thousand Oaks, Ventura and the County of Ventura

**County Transportation Commissions:** Imperial County Transportation Commission (ICTC), Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC), San Bernardino County Transportation Authority (SBCTA) and Ventura County Transportation Commission (VCTC)

**Tribal Government Regional Planning Board:** Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians

**Staff Present**

- Kome Ajise, Executive Director
- Darin Chidsey, Chief Operating Officer
- Debbie Dillon, Chief Strategy Officer
- Carmen Flores, Human Resources Director
- Cindy Giraldo, Chief Financial Officer
- Sarah Jepson, Planning Director
- Javiera Cartagena, Acting Policy and Public Affairs Director
- Julie Shroyer, Chief Information Officer
- Michael Houston, Chief Counsel/Director Legal Services
- Ruben Duran, Board Counsel
- Maggie Aguilar, Office of Regional Council Support
- Peter Waggoner, Office of Regional Council Support

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

SCAG President Rex Richardson, representing Long Beach, called the meeting to order at 10:18 a.m. President Richardson welcomed attendees to SCAG’s Annual General Assembly meeting.

President Richardson asked First Vice President Clint Lorimore, Eastvale, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Richardson indicated opening remarks would be provided by Governor Gavin Newsom. A prerecorded video from Governor Newsom was played in which he addressed Southern California leaders and noted the importance of working together.

President Richardson stated that during the General Assembly meeting they would be watching videos honoring SCAG's annual Sustainability Award winners. He provided instructions on how to participate in the meeting and asked the Clerk to call roll. A quorum was confirmed.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

President Richardson provided instructions for public comment. SCAG staff confirmed that there were no public comment speakers.

### **REVIEW AND PRIORITIZE AGENDA ITEM/S**

There was no reprioritization of agenda items.

### **ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

President Richardson stated that in the essence of time they would receive presentations on items 1-4 and combined the votes. No representatives objected.

#### 1. Consideration of Proposed Amendments to the SCAG Bylaws

President Richardson called on Chief Counsel Michael Houston, for background information on Agenda Item No. 1.

Chief Counsel Houston stated that proposals were presented to the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee (BRC) and subsequently approved by the Regional Council on April 1, 2021 for submission to the General Assembly. Mr. Houston summarized the four proposed amendments, which included two from Regional Councilmember Trevor O'Neil and two from SCAG staff.

Mr. Houston first reviewed proposals from Regional Councilmember O'Neil. The first proposal would require the Clerk or Counsel to re-state motions that differ from the recommended actions contained in the Regional Council's agenda packet, and it would require an opportunity for Regional Councilmember to discuss the matter before voting. The second proposal would broaden eligibility to be a candidate for SCAG officer positions. He noted that the BRC discussed the second proposal extensively and voted to recommend the proposal but with amendments as follows: that Policy Committee service count for eligibility but a minimum of 12 months of Regional Council service would be required to be an officer; the 24-months of service must be served continuously as is currently required by the Bylaws; Policy Committee service could not double count if a person

served concurrently on both a Policy Committee and the Regional Council at the same time; and that only then-current Regional Council members could be officer candidates.

Mr. Houston then reviewed proposed amendments from SCAG staff, as permitted by SCAG Bylaws. The first proposal from staff would allow the seven County Regional Council representatives to each appoint one local elected official from a SCAG member with a “community of concern” within its boundaries to serve on a Policy Committee. He noted that upon appointment by the county representative, the President would be required to place the appointed member on one of the three Policy Committees, and that the appointees would serve approximately two-year terms. He indicated that the net result of this proposed amendment would be to increase representation of member agencies with communities of concern by adding a total of seven spread across the Policy Committees. He further noted that this proposal was intended to begin implementation at a governance level of the Regional Council’s diversity, equity and inclusion resolution as adopted last year. The final staff proposal would clarify that the adjustment to annual membership assessments would be based on the Consumer Price Index increase from the prior year’s assessment, not the prior year’s collections. He explained that this change would reflect a more consistent baseline and also reflects the prior year’s approval from both the Regional Council and the General Assembly in adopting the assessment.

Hon. Trevor O’Neil, Anaheim, addressed the General Assembly members and noted that his intent in suggested bylaw amendments was to provide clarity when motions are changed on the floor during Regional Council meetings and to broaden opportunities for representatives to serve on the SCAG as a SCAG officer. With respect to the third recommended bylaw change on the communities of concern, he noted that he was not in favor of it and believed that it created inequities in that there would be more representation coming from certain areas than others. He stated that he hoped the President would give each individual member the opportunity to vote up or down on each individual components of the motion before them.

President Richardson acknowledged the work of the BRC and the Regional Council and stated that the recommendations brought forward create a more inclusive Regional Council and allows for more participation as it relates to becoming an officer.

## 2. Adoption of the Fiscal Year 2021-22 General Fund Budget and Membership Assessment Schedule

President Richardson called on Executive Director Kome Ajise to provide background information on Agenda Item No. 2. Executive Director Ajise called on Chief Financial Officer Cindy Giraldo to provide background information on Agenda Item Number. 2.



Cindy Geraldo, Chief Financial Officer, reported that the Executive/Administration Committee and Regional Council approved staff's recommendation of the 2021-22 General Fund Budget and that staff was requesting the General Assembly to adopt the FY22 General Fund budget and membership assessment schedule. She explained the FY 222 General Fund Budget and provided examples of activities that the General Fund covers. She noted that line-item detail of a General Fund Budget along with the membership assessment schedule were included in the staff report as attachment one.

Hon. Marsha McLean sought clarification on Item Number 1 of the Bylaws regarding officers and districts like hers that rotate the Regional Council seat. Specifically, she asked if the bylaws recommendation would allow members of cities that rotate every two years the ability to submit an application and serve as a board officer.

President Richardson explained that this bylaw change would allow her service as a policy committee member, preceding her time as a Regional Council member, to be factored into the two-year requirement. He noted that in her situation it would help provide more access.

### 3. Ratification of 2021-22 Slate of Elected SCAG Officers

President Richardson called on Chief Counsel Houston, for background information on Agenda Item No. 3. Chief Counsel Houston reviewed the process of the Nominating Committee and provided details of the Nominating Committee meeting on March 15, 2021. He stated that the individuals recommended to the Regional Council were Hon. Clint Lorimore for the position of President, Hon. Jan Harnik for the position of First Vice President and Supervisor Carmen Ramirez for the position of Second Vice President. On April 1, 2021, the Regional Council voted to recommend these individuals to the General Assembly.

President Richardson stated he was honored to support their leadership as they move forward.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

### Approval Item

#### 4. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the General Assembly – June 4, 2020

President Richardson asked for a motion for Agenda Item Nos. 1-4 together.

A MOTION was made (Beaman Jacinto, Coachella) to approve Agenda Item Nos. 1-4. Motion was SECONDED (Robertson, Rialto) and passed by the following votes:

**AYES:** Reyes, Adelanto; Weber, Agoura Hills; Andrade-Stadler, Alhambra; Chun, Aliso Viejo; O'Neil, Anaheim; Tay, Arcadia; Trevino, Artesia; Marshall, Avalon; Avila, Azusa; Wallace, Banning; Courtney, Barstow; Santos, Beaumont; Saleh, Bell; Barcena, Bell Gardens; Hamada, Bellflower; Mirisch, Beverly Hills; Putz, Big Bear Lake; Nava, Brawley; Simonoff, Brea; Swift, Buena Park; Shapiro, Calabasas; Garcia, Calexico; Molina, Calimesa; Cervantes, Calipatria; Smith, Canyon Lake; Gregory, Cathedral City; Yokoyama, Cerritos; Marquez, Chino Hills; Leano, Claremont; Beaman Jacinto, Coachella; Navarro, Colton; Casillas, Corona; Marr, Costa Mesa; Plancarte, County of Imperial; Barger, County of Los Angeles; Wagner, County of Orange; Spiegel, County of Riverside; Hagman, County of San Bernardino; Ramirez, County of Ventura; Marquez, Covina; Fisch, Culver City; Peat, Cypress; Betts, Desert Hot Springs; Tye, Diamond Bar; Ashton, Downey; Finlay, Duarte; Clint, Eastvale; Viegas-Walker, El Centro; Ancona, El Monte; Boyles, El Segundo; Silva, Fullerton; Henderson, Gardena; Devine, Glendale; Wilson, Grand Terrace; Reyes English, Hawthorne; Krupa, Hemet; McCallon, Highland; Posey, Huntington Beach; Nava-Froelich, ICTC; Amparano, Imperial; Griffith, Indian Wells; Ortiz, Indio; Carroll, Irvine; Silva, Jurupa Valley; Curtis, La Cañada Flintridge; Espinoza, La Habra; Zezula, La Habra Heights; De Ruse, La Mirada; Evans, La Quinta; Davis, La Verne; Gennawey, Laguna Niguel; Horne, Laguna Woods; Manos, Lake Elsinore; Pequeno, Lake Forest; Stuckey, Lakewood; Doris, Lancaster; Suarez, Lawndale; Jindal, Loma Linda; Gazeley, Lomita; Richardson, Long Beach; Allen, Long Beach; Doby, Los Alamitos; Solache, Lynwood; Karwin, Menifee; Kelley, Mission Viejo; Shevlin, Monrovia; Ruh, Montclair; Peralta, Montebello; Parvin, Moorpark; Baca, Moreno Valley; White, Murrieta; Paget, Needles; Muldoon, Newport Beach; Perez, Norwalk; Stix, Ojai; Dorst-Porada, Ontario; MacDonald, Oxnard; Kelly, Palm Desert; Woods, Palm Springs; Smith, Placentia; Sandoval, Pomona; Michael, Rancho Cucamonga; Harnik, RCTC; Emdee, Redondo Beach; Robertson, Rialto; Lock-Dawson, Riverside; Zerunyan, Rolling Hills Estates; Ly, Rosemead; Alexander, San Bernardino; Ferguson, San Clemente; Ebiner, San Dimas; Pu, San Gabriel; Ruiz, San Jacinto; Taylor, San Juan Capistrano; Bacerra, Santa Ana; McLean, Santa Clarita; Trujillo, Santa Fe Springs; Sobel, Santa Paula; Wapner, SBCTA; Sustarsic, Seal Beach; Arizmendi, Sierra Madre; Wilson, Signal Hill; Olmos, South El Monte; Mahmud, South Pasadena; Shawver, Stanton; Schwank, Temecula; Adam, Thousand Oaks; Furey, Torrance; Clark, Tustin; Velto, Upland; Judge, VCTC; Brown, Ventura; Menke, Vernon; Jones, Victorville; Miles, Villa Park; Meister, West Hollywood; Davis, Westlake Village; Beltran, Westmorland; Bouchot, Whittier; Benoit, Wildomar; Rodriguez, Yorba Linda; and Avila, Yucaipa (143)

**NOES:** **Item No. 1:** Wilson, Signal Hill (1); **Item No. 1C:** O'Neil, Anaheim; Navarro, Colton; Carroll, Irvine; Zezula, La Habra Heights; Evans, La Quinta; Manos, Lake Elsinore; Pequeno, Lake Forest; Karwin, Menifee; Kelley, Mission Viejo; Emdee, Redondo Beach; Ly, Rosemead; Ferguson, San Clemente; Ruiz, San Jacinto; and Miles, Villa Park (15)

**ABSTAIN: Item No. 1C:** McLean, Santa Clarita (1); **Item No. 4:** Miles, Villa Park; and Gregory, Cathedral City (2)

\*Talamantes, Burbank noted that the city shared representation with Glendale and that this year Glendale was representing them.

\*Frost, Dana Point messaged staff via zoom clarifying vote as yes for Item No.s 1-4 and no on the Bylaws for Item No. 1C.

President Richardson acknowledged their efforts in expanding the voice for communities of. He also congratulated the new slate of Board Officers: Clint Lorimore, Jan Harnik and Carmen Ramirez.

Hon. Deborah Robertson, Rialto, applauded President Richardson and acknowledged his work during the year.

President Richardson thanked Hon. Robertson for her comments.

### **SUSTAINABILITY AWARD**

President Richardson introduced a video showcasing the Sustainability Award winners in six categories as follows:

- Outstanding Achievement in Sustainability: The City of Santa Ana – Santa Ana Arts Collective (SAAC) Affordable Housing and Adaptive Reuse Community
- Active, Healthy and Safe Communities: The City of Palm Desert – San Pablo Avenue Streetscape Project
- Clean Cities – Alternative Fuels and Infrastructure: Suline Transit Agency – Driving the Future of Hydrogen
- Efficient and Sustainable Land Use: Kounkuey Design Initiative and The City of Los Angeles – Adopt-A-Lot Program
- Housing Innovation: Clifford Beers Housing Inc. – Isla de Los Angeles Development
- Green Region Initiative: The San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District – Upper Santa Ana River Wash Habitat Conservation Plan

### **YEAR IN REVIEW - SCAG PRESIDENT 2020-2021 ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

A video in review of the year was played.

President Richardson stated that it had been a tremendous honor to have served this dynamic region and shared some thoughts as he closed out the year. He highlighted several things that Southern California has to offer. He noted how this region had contributed to him as a human and helped shape him as a leader. He noted that they had accomplished a lot and that there was President's Report that had been published and released, and I encouraged the membership to take a look at. He also provided some highlights of the Inclusive Economic Recovery Strategy and the Regional Data Platform.

#### **RECOGNITION OF 2020-2021 POLICY COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND VICE CHAIRS**

President Richardson recognized Community, Economic and Human Development Chair Jorge Marquez, Covina and Vice Chair Frank Yokoyama, Cerritos; Energy and Environment Chair David Pollock, Moorpark, current Vice Chair Deborah Robertson, Rialto and former Vice Chair Carmen Ramirez, Ventura County; Transportation Committee Chair Cheryl Viegas-Walker, El Centro, current Vice Chair Art Brown, Buena Park and former Vice Chair Steve Hoffbauer, Palmdale; and Legislative/Communications and Membership Committee Chair Jose Luis Solache, Lynwood and Vice Chair Peggy Huang, TCA.

#### **RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING REGIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS**

President Richardson recognized outgoing Regional Councilmembers Hector Pacheco, San Fernando, District 67 and Rita Ramirez, Victorville, District 65.

He also acknowledged Executive Director Ajise, staff, members of the EAC, the cities of Long Beach and Avalon and his family.

Executive Director Ajise thanked President Richardson and noted that it was a privilege and pleasure to work with him and stated that his leadership had been transformative. He noted that staff had accomplished everything the President had set out to do and this was a testament to his leadership. Mr. Ajise highlighted some of the accomplishments during President Richardson's tenure. He also thanked the leadership team and congratulated the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the Policy Committees.

#### **REMARKS FROM INCOMING PRESIDENT**

Incoming President Lorimore thanked the General Assembly members and noted he was humbled to have the opportunity serve Southern California in this capacity. He took a moment to recognize the public servants that had served this organization well. He also thanked past Presidents and staff for their hard work. He noted that this agency had a legacy of leadership and he looked forward to continuing the strong tradition of collaboration that SCAG was known for. He expressed that while

the pandemic shut down the region, state, and nation for over a year, they were now seeing signs that the worst of the situation might be behind them. However, he recognized that they still had a housing crisis, traffic problems, and high unemployment. He noted they had an opportunity to refocus and engage their partners to help build and strengthen relationships that would facilitate the recovery. He indicated that he would be convening the Executive/Administrative Committee to kickstart a comprehensive overhaul of the agency's strategic plan and that this was the first step in establishing a platform for success for the future of our agency and region. He stated that he wanted them all to have a part in developing strong and lasting solutions for the challenges and issues they face so they can make Southern California a better place to live, work, and play, both now and into the future. In closing, he reiterated that he was humbled by their support and offered them his heartfelt thanks for this opportunity to serve as President and looked forward to this year ahead.

**RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING PRESIDENT REX RICHARDSON, LONG BEACH**

Executive Director Kome Ajise thanked President Richardson for his leadership during a crucial time. Mr. Ajise introduced a video which highlighted President Richardson's accomplishments and included remarks about President Richardson from SCAG staff and Regional Councilmembers. Mr. Ajise stated that it had been a privilege and a pleasure to work with President Richardson.

The following members thanked outgoing President Richardson for his service: Cindy Allen, Long Beach; Frank Navarro, Colton; Jess Talamantes, Burbank; Kathleen Kelley, Palm Desert; Guillermo Silva, Jurupa Valley; Jose Luis Solache, Lynwood; and Ben Benoit, Wildomar.

The following members also stated they looked forward to working with the incoming President: Frank Navarro, Colton; Jess Talamantes, Burbank; and Guillermo Silva, Jurupa Valley.

Incoming President Lorimore thanked everyone for participating at the meeting and stated he was looking forward to doing this meeting in person next year. He congratulated the Immediate Past President and his fellow Board Officers.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, incoming President Clint Lorimore adjourned the General Assembly at 12:36 p.m.

[MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY]

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